

Itinerary The Best of Malta

Malta...



When people hear about Malta many do not know what to imagine or expect – People usually know that the Knights of the Order of St. John are linked to Malta but not quite sure how. They may have heard that Napoleon was in Malta for a while, that St. Paul the Apostle was shipwrecked here, maybe even that the Phoenicians, the Romans, the Moors, amongst others had settled here, but no one is really sure what the attraction to this island was.... Why Malta?

Well – Malta primarily because it is strategically situated in the centre of the Mediterranean, at the crossroads between Europe and Africa; Malta because it is a naturally fortified island; Malta because the climate is mild; these were some of the reasons why many civilisations chose to settle in Malta. Today these factors are still valid reasons to visit, to which we can also add 7000 years of heritage, which is different and varied, a legacy left to us by all those who passed through the islands at some point and which today is quintessentially Maltese: this is what Malta is made of.

So Malta is an island...at least geographically-speaking...but behaves very differently to many others of its kind. Firstly, it is not a seasonal island: it 'works' all the year round which means that any period is a good one to visit! A former colony of the UK, it has been independent for just over 50 years and part of the EU (the smallest country) but what makes Malta stand out most is the contrasting scenery that one gets to see in such a small space (just 316 sq km). Being so small means that the programmes are more diverse with little time wastage as transfers are short. In just a few days you can experience a gamut of emotions having the deep blue sea, imposing cliffs, Palaces in Medieval Mdina, Fortifications in Majestic Valletta and picturesque Gozo. It truly feels like being transported from one age to another and this is largely what contributes to the element of surprise...coupled with sunshine and traditional



Overview



Explore Malta's best in 7 days and let your senses feast on all the island has to offer. Take in the breathtakingly beautiful colours of the sun-soaked stone as you walk down the streets of Valletta. Experience the sounds of the open air market by the sea and the smells of honey and sea salt as you take a ride through the Gozo streets. Get a privileged behind-the-scenes pass in Mdina and take a look at how life unfolds behind those majestic doors. From ancient temples with unparalleled history to walled cities of myths and mystery, this trip will allow you to experience this island of many faces in a one-of-a-kind local way.





Daily Itinerary



Day 1 – Arrival and Free time to Explore the Hotel and whereabouts

Day 2 – Valletta – Capital City

Day 3 – Marsaxlokk (fishing Village) and Neolithic Temples

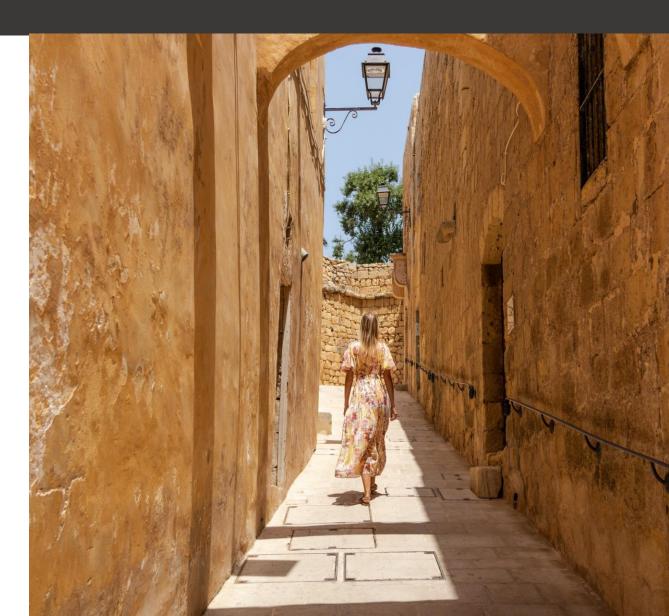
Day 4 – Island of Gozo

Day 5 – Mdina & Rabat

Day 6 – The 3 Cities

Day 7 – Free Day

Day 8 – Departures



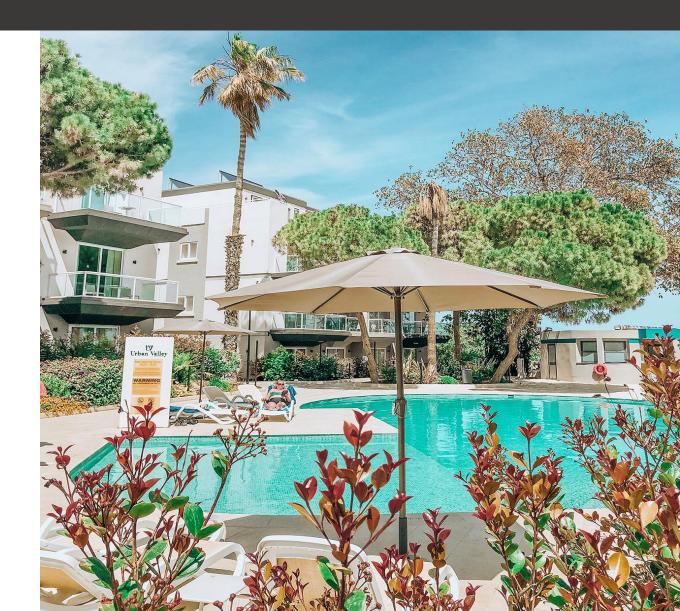
Day 1 – Welcome to Malta



Arrival at Malta International Airport were your chauffeur will be awaiting you. You will be taken by private transfer to the Urban Valley Resort. Upon arrival you will check-in and have free time to explore the hotel facilities and time to relax.

Urban Valley Reosrt 4*

Set in San Ġwann, Urban Valley Resort enjoys a quiet location just a 15-minute drive from Valletta. The property features 2 outdoor swimming pools and a tennis court. Dining options include 2 restaurants and bars. Free high-speed WiFi is available throughout. The Urban Valley offers rooms and suites. All units are equipped with a flat-screen TV, coffee/tea making facilities, and minibar. The private bathroom is fitted with a shower, with free toiletries and a hairdryer provided for your convenience. A buffet breakfast is available each morning at the property. A complimentary shuttle service to Sliema is at guests' disposal at scheduled times.



Day 2 — Valletta The Capital



Valletta Culinary Experience

You will learn about the luxurious meals of the Knights – the friction between the knights, the authorities and the cooks referring to the quantity and quality of the food and drink served. We will show you where the old bakeries, the ice depot and Great Store of Wheat were located. The Culinary experience offers you the opportunity to learn about the menus served in the Auberges, the Grand Master's chocolate morning, Valletta's traditional Patisseries and the 'health foods' recommended by the physicians of the 18th Century. We will also talk about how chocolate and coffee were introduced in social circles and the Valletta market scene where Malta and Gozo's most loved foods are sold. The culinary tour offers a narrated glimpse into Valletta's culinary experiences through its rich and treasured architecture.

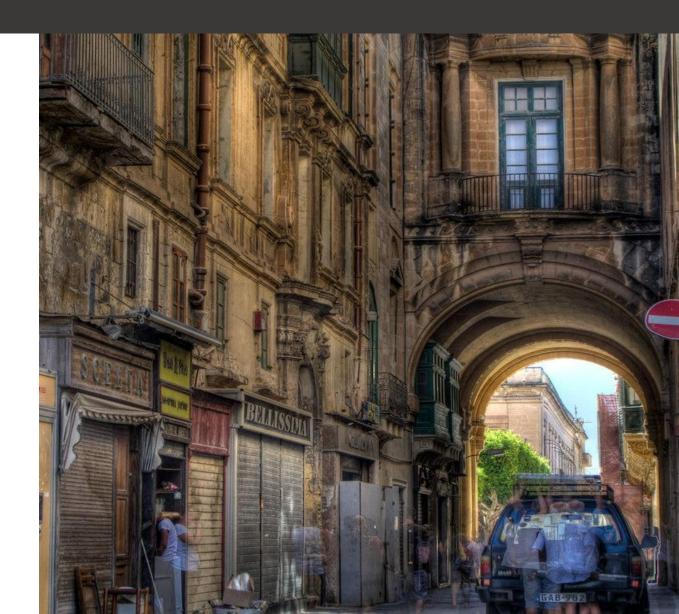
The guests will also visit the Co-Cathedral of St. John and taste some local products during the visit.

Tour: Private

Duration: 3-4 hrs

Meals included: Breakfast (hotel) / food tasting

Entrance tickets: St. John's Cathedral



Day 3 – Marsaxlokk fishing village & Neolithic Temples



Marsaxlokk

The village is known for the Marsaxlokk Market, a large market which takes place around the whole village on Sundays and tourist market all days during the week. The inhabitants of the village are called the Xlukkajri and are historically fishermen.

Neolithic Temples - UNESCO World Heritage Site

First excavated in 1839, the remains suggest a date between 3600 - 3200 BC, a period known as the Gantija phase in Maltese prehistory. Hagar Qim was in fact never completely buried as the tallest stones, remained exposed and featured in 18th and 19th century paintings. The site consists of a central building and the remains of at least two more structures. The large forecourt and the monumental facade of the central structure follow the pattern typical of Maltese Prehistoric Temples. Along the external wall one may find some of the largest megaliths used in the building of these structures, such as a 5.2m high stone and a huge megalith estimated to weigh close Duration: 3-4 brs

Duration: 3-4 hrs Meals included: Breakfast (hotel)

Entrance tickets: Temples Hagar Qim & Mnajdra



Day 4 — Discover the island of Gozo



Gozo Discovery

Gozo meaning "joy" in Castilian is the second largest Island of the Maltese archipelago, with a population of approximately 30,000.

Though separated from mainland Malta by a mere 5km stretch of sea, Gozo is distinctly different from Malta. The Island is a third the size of Malta, more rural and tranquil. Its culture and way of life are rooted in tradition and yet open to the present.

Exuding a relaxed pace of life, Gozo is the ideal secluded haven and at just 25 minutes or so by ferry from Malta, the hop can easily be made for even the shortest stay.

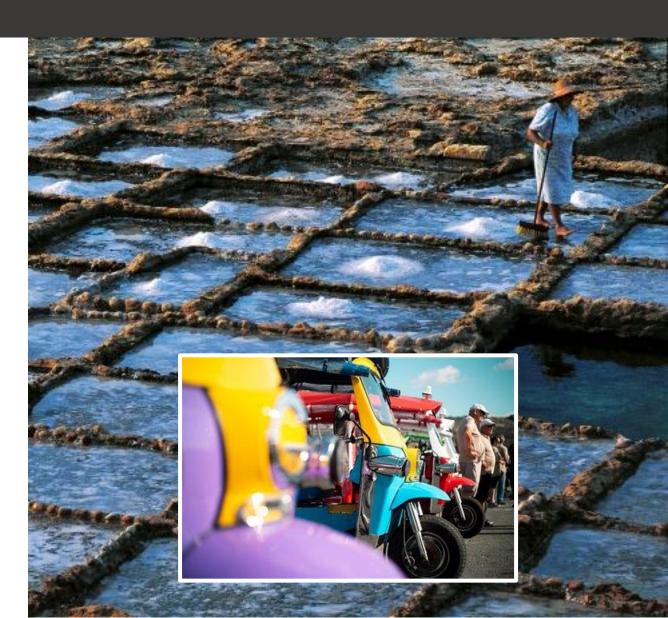
You will be transported to the north of the island and take the ferry to Gozo. Upon arrival at the Mgarr port you will be greeted by your TUK TUK driver/ Gozo expert for a full day discovery of Gozo's hidden gems.

A snack lunch stop is also included with local Gozitan tastes and flavours. Tour: Shared (max 6 people)

Duration: 8 hrs

Meals included: Breakfast (hotel) / Snack Lunch

Entrance tickets: None



Day 5 – Mdina & Rabat



Intriguing Mdina Noble Families

The history of **Mdina** traces back more than 4000 years. According to tradition it was here that in 60 A.D. that **the Apostle St. Paul** is said to have lived after being shipwrecked on the Islands. Furthermore it is said that St. Paul resided inside the grotto know as Fuori le Mura (outside the city walls) now known as St. Paul's Grotto in Rabat. Lamp lit by night and referred to as "the silent city", Mdina is fascinating to visit for its **timeless atmosphere** as well as its cultural and religious treasures. Mdina has had different names and titles depending on its rulers and its role but its medieval name describe it best - *'Citta' Notabile'*: **the noble city**.

Tour: Private **Duration:** 3hrs

Meals included: Breakfast (hotel)

Entrance tickets: None



Day 6 – The 3 Cities



The Ghosts of Vittoriosa

Malta's historic walled city of Vittoriosa is the canvas for the tales untold. This time, the protagonists are ghosts instead of the usual Knights. We explore the mysterious atmosphere of these old towns while the untold story of ghosts and haunted houses unfold.

The Ghost tour takes us to the often unseen back streets of the city. We will Walk through the spirits of ghosts and discuss the different individual experiences, some positive, and others somewhat less positive.

The walk around the city offers an unusual perspective of these erstwhile cities. You will be transported on a journey into the past in search of a few of the numerous uncanny "residents" of these inspiring historical towns.

Tour: Private

Duration: 3hrs

Meals included: Breakfast (hotel)

Entrance tickets: None



Day 7 – Day @ Leisure

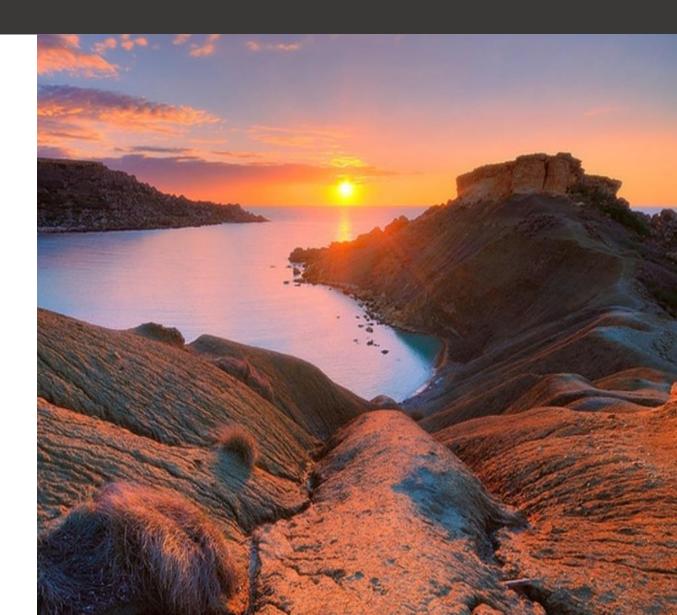




Day 8 – Departures



You will be assisted for your departures by our chauffeur who will drive you in a private transfer from the Hotel to Malta International Airport.



Inclusions

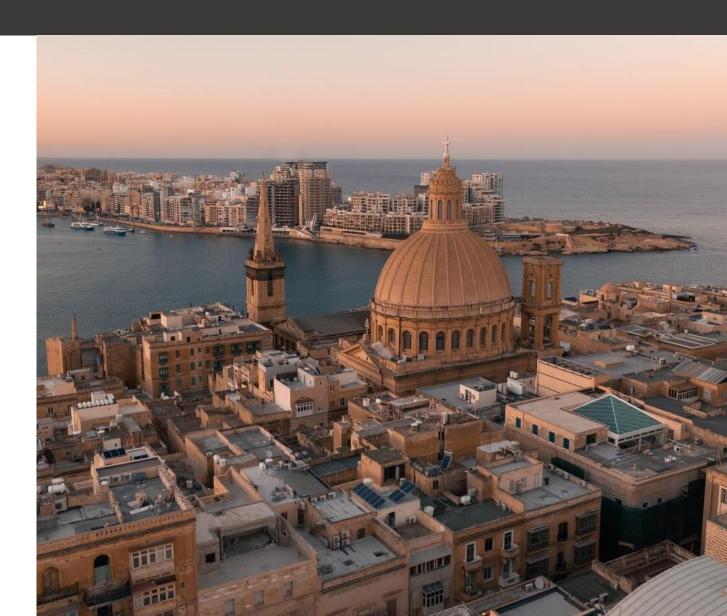


Inclusions

- 7 nights at Urban Valley Resort (standard rooms) on BB basis
- Meals as per itinerary
- Services of an experienced English speaking guide on excursions
- Transfers for the booked tours on itinerary.
- All activities and experiences mentioned in the itinerary

Exclusions

- Flights
- Travel insurance
- Meals not mentioned in the inclusions
- Gratuities



Booking Information



All our hotels and guest houses are hand-selected based on their quality, customer care and local character. We work closely with all our hotel partners to ensure our guests experience the very best during their stay with us in Malta.

The itinerary above is available all year round however accommodation and activities are however subject to availability at the time of booking. Please also note that June, July, August and September are busy periods and therefore early booking is essential to facilitate this itinerary.

Edward Frendo Jones Email :

edward@maltauncut.com;

General Email: info@maltauncut.com

Tel: +356 21 322024

Mob Edward: +356 7982 7614 **Mob Lisa:** +356 9905 7764

www.maltauncut.com

